

REMARKS

In a final Office Action mailed February 5, 2007, claims 14-15 were objected to as dependent on a base claim but were indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form, and claims 1-13 and 16-20 were rejected. This amendment amends claims 2-3, 9, 11 and 15-18 and cancels claims 1, 4-8 and 19-20. No new matter has been added.


Claims 9-10, 14-15 and 17-18 were provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over claims in co-pending Application No. 10/625,659. A terminal disclaimer referencing the '659 application is filed herewith, rendering this rejection moot.

Claims 1-13 and 16-20 were rejected as obvious over Wolff (U.S. Patent No. 6,081,261) in view of Ericson (U.S. Patent No. 6,666,376). Applicants respectfully disagree with the analysis presented in the Office Action. However, to further prosecution of the application claims 1, 4-8 and 19-20 have been canceled, claims 2-3 and 9-12 have been amended to depend from claim 14, and claims 17-18 have been amended to include limitations based on those in claim 14. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 17-18 are allowable for at least the same reason as claim 14. In view of the amendments and remarks presented above, the §103 rejection is moot and all claims are in condition for allowance.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayment to the deposit account of Kenyon & Kenyon LLP, Deposit Account No. 11-0600. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to discuss any matter concerning this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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